

Abstract of the Disclosure

A microcomputer includes an external pulse signal capturing section and a clock switching software section. The external pulse signal capturing section, operating in synchronization with a low frequency operation clock signal, captures an external pulse signal such as a remote control signal. The clock switching software section decodes the data portion of the input pulse signal obtained by the external pulse signal capturing section, and switches the operation clock signal from a low frequency operation clock signal to a high frequency operation clock signal when the decoded result is a power-on instruction. The microcomputer can solve a problem of a conventional microcomputer in that it can sometimes misidentify noise input to its remote control terminal as a remote control signal, and hence switches the operation clock signal from a low frequency sub-clock signal in an idle mode to a high frequency main clock signal in a normal operation mode, thereby impairing effective power saving.